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The council discussed at length ways and means by which the founder societies through the council may be of use to the nation. The unanimous desire to help the government in the prosecution of this war resulted in a resolution instructing the executive committee to cooperate with the government in procuring the services of engineers, also the appointment of a committee of three consisting of Messrs. H. W. Buck, A. M. Greene, Jr., and Edmund B. Kirby, to consider the best means of utilizing the inventive ability of members of the founders societies.

The secretary was instructed to inform all government bureaus that might be interested in the organization of the Engineering Council and its desire to be of assistance.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

THE Index to Volume XLV. of SCIENCE is published with the present issue. It is sent to libraries and to those who have requested that copies of the index be sent regularly. It will be sent to any subscriber on application.

THE degree of D.Sc. has been conferred by Williams College on Robert Grant Aiken, '87, since 1895 astronomer at the Lick Observatory.

AT its ninety-sixth annual commencement the George Washington University conferred its doctorate of science on George Perkins Merrill, of the U. S. National Museum; on Elmer Ernest Southard, of the Harvard Medical School; on Arthur Powell Davis, of the Reclamation Service, and on Frederick Fuller Russel, major, Medical Corps, U. S. Army.

THE University of Arkansas has conferred its doctorate of laws on the governor of the state, Charles H. Brough, who before his election was professor of economics and sociology in the university.

SIR DAVID PRAIN, director of the Kew Botanical Gardens, has been elected president of the Linnean Society.

ALFRED H. BROOKS, formerly in charge of the Division of Alaskan Mineral Resources of the U. S. Geological Survey, has been appointed a captain in the Engineer Officers

Reserve Corps and ordered to report for training. During Mr. Brooks's absence on military duty, Mr. George C. Martin will be geologist, acting in charge of Alaskan work.

WE learn from *Nature* that Mr. J. Ramsbottom, of the department of botany, British Museum, has been appointed protozoologist to the medical staff at Salonika. The trustees of the museum have accepted Miss Lorrain Smith's offer to act as temporary assistant in charge of the fungi during Mr. Ramsbottom's absence.

MISS AMY WALKER, M.A., Smith College, has been appointed research assistant in the chemistry of foods, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, under the Ellen H. Richards Fund, for the year 1917-1918. The work will be carried on under the direction of Professor A. G. Woodman, and it is proposed to study chemical changes, with special reference to the nitrogen compounds, which take place when fish decomposes before and after heating at relatively high temperatures. This question is of particular interest in the sardine industry.

SIR ERNEST SHACKLETON has now returned to England, after lecturing in Australia and America. He has received a commission in the army.

PROFESSOR JOSEPH S. AMES, of the Johns Hopkins University, who was sent to France early in April under the auspices of the Council of National Defense, has returned to Baltimore. Professor Ames will report on the development of aeronautics.

DR. H. D. DAKIN, who was appointed last March, with Dr. Alexis Carrel, to have charge of the military hospital which is being constructed and equipped by the Rockefeller Foundation on the grounds of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research, has returned to New York. Dr. Dakin went over to France in April to consult with Dr. Carrel, with whom he worked during 1915 and 1916 as a bacteriologist.

THE Linnean Society, London, has presented the Linnean gold medal to Mr. H. P. Guppy for his services to biology, and the

Crisp medal to Dr. R. J. Hilliard, of the University of Sydney.

DR. J. M. COULTER, head of the department of botany, University of Chicago, delivered the annual Phi Kappa Phi address at the Kansas State Agricultural College on May 15. The subject of Dr. Coulter's address was "Science and the public service."

DR. FRANK WALDO, of Cambridge, formerly professor in the U. S. Signal Service, has volunteered a series of eighteen lectures on meteorology to the men at the Squantum aviation camp of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

PROFESSOR H. H. BARTLETT, of the University of Michigan, has given, during the week of May 21-26, a series of five lectures, under the auspices of the department of plant breeding, of Cornell University. The topics of the lectures follow:

Elementary and collective species in nature.

Evidences of mutation in plants and animals.

The behavior of mutations and elementary species in inheritance.

The critics of the mutation theory.

The most recent investigations of variation and heredity in *Oenothera*.

M. EMIL BOUTROUX, professor of philosophy at Paris, has been appointed Herbert Spencer lecturer at the University of Oxford for the present year. A Romanes lecturer at the university has not been appointed, the income having been transferred to the emergency relief fund of the university.

MR. STEPHEN PAGET is preparing a biography of the late Sir Victor Horsley, the distinguished English surgeon.

DR. BERT H. BAILEY, since 1900 professor of zoology at Coe College, died on June 22, aged forty-two years.

DR. JOSEPH WEINSTEIN, an instructor in chemistry at Columbia University, died recently in the laboratory of the university. He was fifty-five years old, an analytical chemist and was graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University.

SIR WILLIAM D. NIVEN, F.R.S., formerly director of studies at the Royal Naval College,

Greenwich, died on May 29, at the age of seventy-five years.

DR. WILLIAM HENRY BESANT, F.R.S., fellow of St. John's College and lecturer on mathematics, died on June 2, in his eighty-ninth year.

THE annual meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education will be held in Washington, D. C., on July 6 and 7 in connection with the educational committee of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense, instead of in the northwest as formerly planned. The topic which will be discussed at this meeting is "The relation of the engineering school to the national government during the present emergency." F. L. Bishop is secretary of the society.

CAPTAIN ROBERT A. BARTLETT, on June 30, telegraphed to the American Museum of Natural History from St. Johns, Newfoundland, that he had taken command of the steam sealer *Neptune* at that port, and that early on July 1 he would steam for Sydney, C. B. The eight tons of supplies shipped from New York for the Crocker Land party are at Sydney and will there be stowed on the *Neptune*. Captain Bartlett expects to leave Sydney on either the third or fourth of July for Etah, Greenland, where the Crocker Land Expedition is now quartered. Coincident with the leaving of the *Neptune*, a special display devoted to the Crocker Land Expedition has been installed on the first floor of the American Museum of Natural History. The location of the expedition, as well as the probable course of its return, is indicated on a globe. This exhibition also includes pictures of the vessels which have been sent to the rescue of the party—the *Neptune* being the third. There is also on view a canoe of skin, the *kyak*, in which Dr. Harrison J. Hunt, a member of the party, who arrived a few days ago, made part of his perilous journey from the base at Greenland to civilization.

THE government of the Union of South Africa has appointed an advisory board to deal with the development of the natural resources of the country. A special scientific and technical committee has been appointed to carry

out scientific investigations. This committee consists of Mr. J. Burt-Davy (botany and agriculture); Mr. L. Colquhoun (chemistry); Professor Young (geology); Professor Orr (mechanical engineering); Mr. Bernard Price (electrical engineering); Professor Beattie (physics); Dr. Caldecott (metallurgy); Professor van der Riet (chemistry); Professor Malherbe (chemistry); Dr. L. Peringuey (president of the Royal Society of South Africa). The first step taken by the new committee has been to arrange for the preparation of fifty-two reports by leading experts, dealing with the available raw materials of South Africa suitable for manufacture or export. It is intended that these reports shall be published for the guidance of intending manufacturers and other business men.

ARRANGEMENTS have recently been completed for the establishment of a new department of technical optics in connection with the Imperial College of Science and Technology at South Kensington. According to a statement in the *London Times*, the new department is under the management of a Technical Optics Committee, of which Mr. Arthur H. D. Acland is chairman, and which at present consists of 13 members representing the Admiralty, the Army Council, the Ministry of Munitions, the Royal Society, the National Physical Laboratory, employers in the optical trades, glass manufacturers and the Imperial College; while two further members have yet to be elected representative of glass workers and metal workers. Mr. Frederic J. Cheshire has been appointed head of the new department at the Imperial College for a period of five years, with the title of director of technical optics and professor of technical optics at the Imperial College. Mr. Cheshire has been associated with optical instruments for many years at the Patent Office, and, since the formation of the Ministry of Munitions, has been deputy director-general of the ministry and technical director of the optical department. He is president of the Optical Society. It is anticipated that the organization of departments will be rapidly completed, and that training will begin at an early date.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

PLANS for medical work at the University of Chicago, for which a fund of \$5,500,000 has been raised, contemplate two medical schools and provision for research. One medical school on essentially the same basis as that of the Johns Hopkins University is to provide training for candidates for the degree of M.D. The other school, in connection with the Presbyterian Hospital, is intended for the benefit of those in actual practise. It may be estimated that the entire amount of money involved, including all the corporations which unite for this work, will reach approximately \$15,000,000.

MR. LEVI BARBOUR, of Detroit, has given \$150,000 to the University of Michigan, one hundred thousand dollars of which is to be used for a residence hall for women and fifty thousand for scholarships for women from oriental countries.

As the result of recent gifts, Lawrence College, Appleton, Wis., is erecting a dormitory for women to cost \$125,000 and a chapel to cost \$120,000.

DR. JESSE MORE GREENMAN, associate professor in the Henry Shaw School of Botany of Washington University and curator of the herbarium of the Missouri Botanical Garden has been promoted to a professorship of botany in Washington University.

At the recent commencement of Syracuse University, Dr. Louis M. Hickernell was promoted from an instructorship to be assistant professor of zoology. Mr. Harry S. Pizer, B.Sc., won a teaching fellowship in zoology for the coming year.

DR. A. E. SHIPLEY, master of Christ's College, Cambridge, and reader in zoology in the university, has been elected vice-chancellor for the next academical year.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

AN INSTITUTE FOR THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE AND CIVILIZATION

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: Dr. Sarton's plan for an *Institute for the History of Sci-*